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Message Text

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47
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 /081 W
---------- 061774
R 050730Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5204
INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TEHERAN
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, HU, XG
SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER PUJA'S TRAVELS AND ASIAN SECURITY

REF: BUDAPEST 0168, 75 BUDAPEST 4126 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN FOLLOWING WITH INTEREST HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PUJA'S SWING THROUGH IRAN, VIETNAM, SINGAPORE AND INDIA (BUDAPEST 0168). CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT FROM IRANIAN STOP WAS JOINT COMMUNIQUE, A FAVORITE TOOL OF HUNGARIANS. PUJA'S MEETINGS IN DRV (JAN 24-31) WITH PRIME MINISTER PHAM VAN DONG PRODUCED ANODYNISH COMMUNIQUE BUT NO INFORMATION RE SUBSTANCE OF BILATERAL TALKS.

2. ON JAN 25 HUNGARY'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE, MAGYARORSZAG, CARRIED LEAD EDITORIAL LINKING PUJA'S TRIP TO ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM. EDITORIAL CLAIMED THAT CSCE EXPERIENCE WAS USEFUL EXAMPLE FOR ASIANS;
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THAT "JUST AS IN EUROPE, IT IS REQUIRED THAT ALL ASIAN

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STATES RECOGNIZE NUMEROUS PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND GOOD NEIGHBORLINESS AND THAT THEY REFRAIN FROM VIOLENCE IN THEIR RELATIONSHIPS...."

3. SOME DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS IN BUDAPEST BELIEVE THAT PUJA'S STILL UNEXPLAINED LATE DECEMBER VISIT TO SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO (75 BUDAPEST 4126) MAY HAVE RELATED TO HUNGARIAN EFFORTS TO FURTHER MOSCOW'S INTEREST IN CONVOCATION OF ASIAN SECURITY CONFERENCE. OUTSIDE OF MAGYARORSZAG EDITORIAL, HOWEVER, THERE IS NO FIRM EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THIS VIEW. IF IT SHOULD ULTIMATELY TURN OUT THAT PUJA HAS INDEED BEEN PUSHING SOVIET-SPONSORED ASIAN SECURITY PROJECT WHILE ON HIS PRESENT TRIP, IN OUR VIEW IT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY FOLLOW THAT HE DID SO ON SOVIET INSTRUCTIONS, OR EVEN SUGGESTION. GIVEN HIS POLITICAL AMBITIONS AND HIS YEN FOR RECOGNITION, PUJA MAY SIMPLY HAVE CALCULATED THAT SUCH ACTIVITY COULD NOT FAIL TO ENHANCE HIS IMAGE IN EYES OF SOVIETS AS A MAN TOTALLY COMMITTED TO MOSCOW'S OBJECTIVES. MCAULIFFE

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